

**THE LACLEDE BLADE**

A. J. CAYWOOD, Editor and Publisher.

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SATURDAY, FEB. 20, 1909.

TAFT will finish the big canal, build up the government, lead and strengthen his party and insure prolonged prosperity.

LINCOLN heads a long list of great presidents and statesmen who have been placed at the service of the people by the republican party.

THE unexpected has happened. Bryan has declined and invitation to make a speech. This is not important but being unusual should be a matter of record.

GOVERNOR HADLEY is making haste slowly with important appointments. Meanwhile none but those who are eager to get on the pay roll are impatient.

EVERY partisan movement made by the democrats leads a few more independent citizens to join the republican ranks and aid in redeeming the state from Bourbonism.

THE Missouri constitution has been amended twenty-two times in thirty years by one-fourth of the voters. It is now time for the other three-fourths to make a new one.

WHEN W. D. Vandiver resigns, or finishes his term as insurance commissioner, Hon. John Kennish will take charge under appointment of Governor Hadley. He has already selected his deputies and assistants. He has many applications for the few positions to be filled.

REPUBLICAN leaders do not approve attacks upon the state university though they stand for economic and honest expenditure of public moneys appropriated for it. They believe in sustaining and developing the university and the entire system of higher education. The republican party is the devoted friend of education.

A BILL, which has the approval of Gov. Hadley has been introduced by Senator Krone of St. Louis wiping from the statute books all the laws bearing on breach of promise. Senator Krone says women who bring breach of promise suits are not deserving of damages and that honest women who are jilted in love do not think of filing such suits.

**Not So Many Laws**

From newspaper reports one may imagine that members of the forty-fifth general assembly have proposed several hundred new laws for government of the people. An examination of the measures now before the house and senate reveals the fact that but few new ideas have been advanced.

Up to last Saturday more than 600 bills had been introduced, but about one-fourth of them are duplicate bills—bills introduced concurrently in both houses—and about one-third are purely local measures applying to one locality only, while quite a number are for the relief of sheriffs and other officers and many propose simple amendments to existing laws.

Not more than one hundred of the bills so far introduced represent new legislation, and some particular subjects of legislation are embraced in from three to twenty separate bills, all but one of which must be rejected. Simmered down, it will be found that out of 600 bills not more than fifty measures of general interest are presented.

About 1,350 bills (not including appropriation bills) were introduced in the forty-fourth general assembly and only about 250 of them were enacted, fully one-half of those which passed being acts to amend existing laws, and many of them referring to courts, schools and established institutions. Less than 100 were new laws.

**FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITOL**

Our Special Correspondent Writes Entertainingly of Things at Washington.

There has been some agitation during the week with reference to a change in the canal type from the lock system adopted some four years ago, to the sea level plan as was proposed by a majority of the distinguished engineers once sent there. Informal reports and speeches by the president-elect and information from the distinguished civil engineers would seem to indicate however, that the lock system is still in high favor. Colonel Goethals is now in the city and will appear before the house and senate committees and interoceanic canals and these will doubtless receive much first hand information from him.

Preparations for the inauguration now less than three weeks distant are going on. Every precaution is being taken to prevent overcrowding of the capitol. No person will be admitted to the floor or to the inauguration platform without a card signed by the committee on arrangements, except they be members of the senate and elective officers; members of the house of representatives and elective officers; ex-vice presidents; justices of the supreme court and officers; the admiral of the navy and his aid; the chief of staff of the army and his aid. Cards of admission to the floor and tickets of admission to the extent of two each have been given to senators for their friends. That is a smaller number than has been given out on previous occasions.

Pennsylvania avenue has begun to assume quite baseball like appearance. Seats or bleachers have been erected at open spaces along the avenue where thousands of people may secure seats at prices varying from fifty cents to two dollars. Much will depend on the weather, which, of course, is always a doubtful element on the 4th of March.

As the present administration draws to a close, the legislative body finds itself embarrassed with a number of problems that in all probability cannot be solved at this session. The president has vetoed the census bill which contained the objectionable provision authorizing the appointment of census employees by members of congress instead of through competitive examination under the civil service rules. The president's attitude toward this question and toward other pending measures may result in the failure of a number of important bills in the present congress. It is thought by the leaders of the house that the Sundry civil bill which contains appropriations for the maintenance of the secret service and possibly one or two other supply bills and the census bill will fail of passage this session. In such case, they must be taken up and put into the form of law at the special session to be called in March. The determination to defer action on at least one appropriation bill and to lay over the census bill, will of course open the way for much general legislation and this suggests that many measures other than that relating to the tariff will come up for consideration and probably be passed at the special session. A committee on the census met yesterday to consider the president's vetoed measure. No formal action was taken, but discussion in committee indicated that it would be unwise at this late day to try to pass the census bill over the president's veto.

The house yesterday passed the agricultural appropriation bill with an amendment providing that all discoveries made by the department of agriculture incident to test of pa-

per making material shall be patented in the name of the secretary of agriculture for the benefit of the whole people.

There are indications amounting almost to certainty that the small junta of leaders in the senate, Aldrich, Hale, Gallinger and Foraker, will find their influence much curtailed after this session. Foraker, who is perhaps the ablest man of them all, will retire after March 4, but the real cause of the declining strength of the clique that has long ruled is the determination of some new senators, headed by Senator La Follette of Wisconsin, to take a hand in legislative matters. Senator La Follette showed the strength of the opposition and its determination to have something to do with senatorial business yesterday when he balked Senator Hale's plan to expedite the naval appropriations. He was extremely sarcastic in debate with Senator Hale, the autocrat of the naval committee, or as he is sometimes called "the owner of the United States navy." His language was: "I have the hardihood not only to doubt the divine perfection of the present arrangement, but to almost believe that the business of the senate could be distributed among its ninety-two members instead of being taken care of by less than one-third of this body."

**High Yielding Oats**

Owing to the past season being a very unfavorable one for the oat crop, there are very few oats fit for seed in this locality. Naturally, farmers will have to ship in a large portion of their seed or run a heavy risk in sowing light seed. In the matter of varieties I wish to call the attention of farmers to the Texas Red Rustproof. This variety gave an average yield of 36 bushels on the experiment field last year. It has a short growing, sturdy straw, stands up well and is a great stooler. Its rust resisting power is remarkable, as was shown last year, very little rust appearing on the stalks. It also was the highest yielding variety in tests conducted by Mr. W. P. Brinkley of Linneus making a yield of 25 bushels, the next best being 19 bushel made by the Kherson, while the pative black and white oats made about half the yield of the Texas Reds. This is a very good showing for such a poor oat year as last.

The state experiment station recommends them highly; Missouri's repeated tests having shown their superiority over other varieties under our conditions.

KARL JONES, Mgr. Linn Co. Experiment Station. County papers please copy.

The Waters-Pierce Oil company Monday paid to the state of Missouri by certified check delivered to the clerk of the supreme court \$50,000 and filed papers agreeing to accept every provision of the ouster decree of the court issued on December 23 last.

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